

1. A method of controlling a computer game, comprising the steps of:  
2 imaging a sequence of scenes including the head of a user of the computer; and  
comparing visual characteristics from scene to scene center to determine movement of  
4 the user's head within the scene; and  
controlling the game in accordance with the movements.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the visual characteristics include color, shape  
2 or location.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the visual characteristics include a  
2 combination of static and dynamic characteristics.

4. The method of claim 3, further including the step of modeling of the dynamic  
2 characteristics to yield an estimate of head position.

5. The method of claim 1, further including the step of initiating the head  
2 tracking through a graphical user interface.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the graphical user interface provides a  
2 bounding box displayed on the screen to assist in targeting the user's head.

7. The method of claim 2, further enabling a match in color despite differences  
2 arising from lighting and shadows.

8. The method of claim 2, further enabling a match in color within a threshold of  
2 hue.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein step of comparing the visual characteristics  
2 includes a comparison of pixels from scene to scene.

10. The method of claim 1, further including the step of determining if the user's  
2 head has moved outside of the scene.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein:  
2 the visual characteristic is color; and  
further including the step of finding a weighted average of color to compute the loc  
4 based upon action of the user's head based upon color alone.

12. The method of claim 1, further including the step of segmented a region  
2 defined by a predetermined closeness of color as an estimate of target shape.

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13. The method of claim 1, further including the step of continuing to track the
- 2 user's head when moving in front of or behind a similarly colored object in the scene.

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